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Diane Borchardt in 1994

This article consists almost entirely of a plot summary. It should be extended to provide more balanced coverage covering the context of the real world. Please edit the article to focus on discussing the work, rather than just repeating the conspiracy. (February 2016) (Learn how and when to delete this message template)
Seduced Madness: Diane Borchardt StoryGenreCrimeDramaThrillerWritten byCarmen Culver Director: John PattersonStarringAnn-MargretPeter CoyoteLeslie HopeChristian CampbellHedy BurressTobey MaguireFreddy RodríguezOriginal Language (s)EnglishProducer (y)David R. ElliottBrooke KennedyBrian PikeRunning time200 min. DistributorBrian Pike ProductionsAnn Margret ProductionsReleaseOriginal networkNBCOriginal release <See TFM> February 25, 1996 (1996-02-25) Seduced by Madness: The Diane Borchardt Story is a 1996 American TELEVISION film directed by John Patterson[1] and starring Ann-Margret, Peter Coyote, Leslie Hope Christian Campbell, Hedy Burress, Tobey Maguire, and Freddy Rodríguez. At roughly a real-life event, the film tells the story of Wisconsin teacher Diane Borchardt, who hired teenage students to first spy on her cheating husband and later kill him. The film begins with the murder then traces in the flashback events that led to it, followed by subsequent police investigations leading to arrests and possible murder convictions for both Borchardt and the teens. Plot Summary of the plot of this section may be too long or too detailed. Please help improve this by removing unnecessary details and making it more concoid. (April 2011) (Learn how and when to delete this message template)
The film opens with three teenage boys pulling up to ruben borchardt's house (Peter Coyote) early on Easter Sunday in 1994. Breaking into Ruben's house armed with a shotgun, intending to kill Ruben on the promise of payment. Gathering at the top of the basement stairs where Ruben sleeps, the boys draw their shotgun and shoot Mr. Borchardt as he makes his way up the stairs. After they carried out their deed, the three boys fled the scene. Prologue Film cuts to seven months before filming, during autumn 1993. Diane Kay Borchardt (Ann-Margret) is a seemingly ordinary teacher with a normal life. She has a loving husband, three children and a beautiful house. However, it quickly turns out that it conceals deep mental instability and possible psychosis. While she dotes and spoils her daughter Regan, she is emotionally and physically abusive towards Ruben and his two children, Brook (Hedy Burress) and Chuck (Tobey Maguire). Ruben had married Diane fourteen years earlier after his beloved wife Susan (Cynthia Lynch) died in a car crash when Brook and Chuck were young. Realizing that his children needed a mother figure in their lives, Ruben married diane, only to find himself in a loveless marriage in which Diane constantly abuses him. One day, Ruben goes to a neighbor's house to help him remake his kitchen as he is Carpenter. There she gets reacquainted with Claire Brown (Leslie Hope), with whom she works along with the remodel kitchen. During the rebuilding, Ruben and Claire share their personal stories with each other, becoming more close friends as the project progresses. Later that day, Ruben drops into Diane's clothing store because of the fact that Diane failed to pay for Chuck's new glasses, as she spent it on new shoes for Regan despite having previously agreed to buy glasses. Diane then accuses Ruben of spoiling her own children and neglecting Regan, and says she should make more money. Ruben tries to reason with Diane when suddenly, without provocation, Diane hits him in the head with a label gun. Ruben later admitted to Claire that his marriage was a mistake. Claire also reveals that she and her husband have also grown in recent years. When the project is finished, Ruben admits her true feelings for Claire, and kisses her on impulse. He then leaves her confused, only to come back, and this time, the two proceed to kiss each other passionately. When Claire and Ruben realize their feelings for each other, they begin to secretly meet and contemplate leaving their husbands to get married. Although Ruben is a devout Christian who opposes divorce, his feelings for Claire remain strong and he says he believes they can make it work. Claire agrees to make a decision when she's ready. Divorce Later, Ruben and family go to the annual Christmas party at the church. While Diane's gone, Ruben runs into Claire for the prom, and the two of them steal the dance floor, and Claire accepts Ruben's proposal. Diane at home confronts her husband, admitting she no longer wants to be married to Diane. Diane reservations about ruben's lack of empathy for Ruben, but Ruben believes their marriage is incompatible. Diane drives him away and promises to fall in love with him. Ruben tells Chuck and Brook about his decision, and the children admit to their father that Diane treated them as badly as she treated him, much to Ruben's suffering. Ruben goes out with divorce proceedings against the will of Diane. Meanwhile at school, Diane feigns sadness in front of her students to get sympathy from them. Obviously, she maintains a close relationship with her students to get them to make her offers when she feels fit. One of her closest students, Doug Vest (Christian Campbell) is reasssing her and Diane for lying that her husband physically abuses her in front of their children and turns against her. Diane hugs Doug on her way to compassion, saying Ruben wouldn't have done this to her if she'd known she had it. After school, Doug meets his friends Josh Yanke (Jonah Blechman), Cory (Michael Scott Campbell), and Elgin (Aeryk Egan) to discuss spoiling Mr. Borchardt. Doug, whose estranged father was physically abusive towards his own mother, says Ruben's behavior is justifiable. One day, Ruben, Claire enters his house while Diane is away, and presents her necklace as a sign of his affection. Unno know the couple, Cory and Elgin photograph them in the house, and when Diane shows pictures of Shannon Johnson (Alanna Ubach), another of her students who helps her in the store, she declares that she wants Ruben dead. During the Christmas break, Diane coaxes Doug into the car and lets him spun. She showed him the house and said she'd be willing to let him have a car. She goes on to explain her situation with Ruben, lying to Doug about the true nature of their divorce. She then says that if she were to have Ruben killed, she would have to be someone she trusted, and to his suffering, she refers to him. Later, Diane's lawyer informs her that Ruben is seeking sole custody of the house, much to her outrage, even though he is the original owner. In retaliation, Diane informs the pastor of her church that Ruben has strayed from the church and violated the sanctity of their marriage. Ruben is informed by the pastor that he is not to make communion in the church for committing adultery. After the New Year, Ruben learns that Diane is seeking custody of Chuck as part of her trick at securing the house, which ruben confronts her. Diane reacts violently and continues to physically beat Ruben while Chuck and Brook try to stop her. In divorce proceedings, Ruben receives custody of Chuck and Diane receives sole custody of her business and Regan. However, to her outrage Ruben acquires the care of the house. Diane has the property emptied within a month and quietly promises to enact revenge on Ruben. Later in March, Diane commissioned another student Tim (Johnny Strong) to be with her husband, told him that one person she still believed had let her down. Tim told Doug, who immediately feels guilty for turning his back on Diane. Tim also admits that Diane may be considering murdering her husband. Diane later accuses Ruben of stealing jewellery when in fact she plans to pay Doug to kill her husband. She is also trying to secure a title to Ruben's life insurance policy. Later in the night, Diane approaches Doug and tells him she wants to kill him Ruben, much to Doug's horror. Once again, she makes ruben be the culprit, claiming that he takes everything from her. He bribes Doug with jewelry and cash so he can carry out the murder, and he waives his demands despite his reservations. Doug later commissioned Josh and his cousin Michael Maldonado (Freddy Rodríguez) to help him carry out the murder. Michael rejects the proposal and insists he receives a higher salary for carrying out the deed. Diane starts harassing Claire for stealing Ruben away, going so far as to threaten her with death. Claire becomes restless as the harassment persists, and insists Diane is dangerous, but Ruben insists she can handle it. At school, Diane again insists that Doug carry out the murder, and sets it Kill Ruben. Doug denies it until Diane bribes him with \$20,000 of Ruben's life insurance. Doug backtracks on her demands and agrees to pay Josh and Mike part, and they agree to help him. Murder, while Diane's packing up, Ruben's going to tell Brook that he's got a stash of emergency money for her and Chuck if anything happens to him, and Diane's listening. She also chooses to fight with Ruben when she intends to sell Susan the sewing machine to which Ruben objects. Diane then hits Ruben and beats him when she refuses to defend herself. After grabbing her hand in an attempt to disarm her, Diane used marks on her hand to tell police that Ruben had hit her. Ruben denies this and police are telling the couple to separate temporarily. Having planned on it, Diane agrees to leave the house for Easter, and has made plans to stay at susan's parents' house Regan. She also takes the family dog away by force. Before leaving, Diane forces Ruben to kiss her in front of the cops, and whispers to him: You're dead. On the eve of Easter morning, Ruben is wary of the threat of Diane's death. He told Claire that if anything happened to him, he'd find another man to be happy, while insisting that everything would be fine. Throughout the night, Shannon contemplates warning Ruben about the impending danger, but fails to call. In the early hours of Easter Sunday, Doug and his two friends break into the house while Ruben prepares for easter church services. They gather at the top of the stairs, where they face Ruben as he goes to wake his son. Mike pulls out a shotgun and fires two shots at Ruben, fatally injuring him. The boys then fled the scene and fired a shotgun into an empty lot. Chuck wakes up soon to find his father bleeding to death on the stairs, and he calls 911 while Ruben calls Claire. As Ruben fights for her life, he declares his love for her and leaves her children in her care. Ruben is rushed to a hospital, where the family gathers to learn about his condition. Claire's coming to See Ruben soon, just to find out he's dead. As the family mourns their loss, Diane also learns of the murder, and feigns shock and sadness in front of Sue's parents. She becomes suspicious when she fails to ask any questions about the murder. Meanwhile, detectives Burstyn (Cliff De Young) and Pike (Dean Norris) are assigned to track down Ruben's killer. When Diane refuses to speak to police after the murder, she becomes the prime suspect. In the days that followed, Diane engaged in another insult to her grieving family by threatening to sue the funeral home for dealing with Ruben's services without her consent because she was not present to arrange. Brook accuses her of killing her father, an accusation Diane immediately denies. The funeral is soon taking place and the family pays their last respects to Ruben as he is laid to rest. Diane again feigns sadness in front of an open coffin to preserve her innocence. Claire follows from close range, and soon collapses from shock. An investigation by police will soon determine that the murder weapon was a shotgun, and infer that the shooter was an amateur, as the gun was a cheap design. They are later tipped off about photos taken by Cory and Elgin, and question the boys about their activities. They learn that Diane shares her personal problems with her class and is therefore able to manipulate them to do what she enjoys. Meanwhile, Doug's trying to get the money Diane promised him. Due to her increasingly suspicious behavior in the case, Diane is denied access to Ruben's life insurance policy. After she grew impatient with Doug, Mike threatened Diane at knife-point and demanded she pay. Frantic, Diane searches her husband's bedroom for money that he had hidden away, and soon finds a package containing \$6,000. It gives \$1500 to boys who are still not happy with their payment. As the case remains calm, Brook meets Claire in hospital and claims she returned to them because she was more of a mother to them than Diane ever was. Claire blames heed Ruben's death, but Brook told her he lived with Claire more than ever. After hearing this, Claire is soon able to overcome her personal guilt and become the adoptive mother of Chuck and Brook. Meanwhile, Brook moved to Madison, Wisconsin, where she starts over without Diane in her life. Eventually, she meets a boy named Nick on her new job, and the two soon fall in love. After a night in bed, Brook discovers she is pregnant with Nick's son, and the two agree to marry each other. Doug soon realizes that Diane will never be able to repay her, and informs her friends that she can't raise any more money. Meanwhile, Mike admits to his best friend (Andrew Kavovit) that he had a hand in Ruben's death, though without any notable remorse. is unable to bring in confessions to the police. Five months after the murder, Diane is clear that the cops are on her, and she's trying to conceal her guilt. Shannon meets with Doug, and forces him to admit his role in the murder so she can turn all the evidence over to police before committing suicide to the killer in an attempt to protect Diana. Diane discouraged her from doing it as it will only lead the police back to her no matter what. By the time the school restarts, boys are frustrated by their lack of payments, and are trying to conceal the truth about Ruben's murder. The arrest and trial, six months into the case, goes wrong and he tells his friend Jay that Mike and Doug were responsible for Ruben's murder. Rather than forcing himself to turn to his best friend, Jay goes to the cops himself and implicated Doug as an accomplice. Doug is brought in for questioning, where he accidentally let slip that he was actually involved in Ruben's murder. When Burstyn confronts him about this, Doug fully confesses and gives him his accomplices. Mike and Shannon are under arrest, and two detectives are rushing to high school. There, amid an air of shock and outrage among the students, police arrest Josh and Diane, with the latter desperately protesting her innocence as she is dragged away in handcuffs. Six months later, Diane was released on bail as the trial continues. Doug and Mike are both charged with first-degree murder as adults, and face life sentences. Josh pleads guilty to his crime in exchange for his testimony, and Shannon is charged with perjury. Josh admits his role in the plot as well as Doug's role in organising the attack. Doug reveals all the details of the murder in court, and after his testimony, he is sentenced to life in prison. Diane is soon arrested again and brought up to face a number of witnesses who accuse her as a mastermind of a conspiracy against Ruben. Among those witnesses is Shannon, who feels betrayed by Diane's reluctance to come out in her defense. Doug also testified against Diane, admitting that she wrongly erd him to carry out the murder. Once the testimony is completed, the jury delivers a final verdict. To Diane's horror, she is found guilty of first-degree intentional homicide, and breaks down in front of the courtroom as her daughter Regan looks on in despair. After finally getting justice for her father, the Borchardt family, along with husband Brook and newborn son Ruben, visit Ruben's grave along with Claire. The family reflected on ruben's better days of life and welcomed Brook's son, named in honor of his grandfather, into their family. In the final scene, Diane is interviewed for a real crime documentary, From Prison. Now utterly deceptive, she admits that she doesn't know what she has to learn 'from this' and that her main concern is whether Ruben had 'time to repent or is she lost forever?' The epilogue End of the Film follows an epilogue outlining the punishments faced by conspirators: SHANNON JOHNSON is found guilty of perjury, and gets an eighty-day prison sentence along with a two-year probation. JOSHUA YANKE has not confessed to second-degree intentional manslaughter and is sentenced to 18 years in prison. MICHAEL MALDONADO is found guilty of first-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison. He will not be eligible for parole until he has served 50 years of his sentence. DOUGLAS VEST JR. is found guilty of first-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison. He will not be eligible for parole until he is serving 25 years of his sentence. DIANE BORCHARDT is found guilty of first-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison and will not be eligible for parole until she is serving 40 years of her sentence, at which time she was under 86. Cast Diane Kay Borchardt - Ann-Margret Ruben Borchardt - Peter Coyote Claire Brown - Leslie Hope Brooke Borchardt - Hedy Burress Chuck Borchardt - Tobey Regan Borchardt - Veronica Lauren Douglas Vest, Jr. - Christian Campbell Michael Maldonado - Freddy Rodriguez Tim - Johnny Strong Joshua Yanke - Jonah Blechman Shannon Johnson - Alanna Ubach Seth - Danny Masterson Elgin Thomas - Aeryk Egan Cory - Scott Michael Campbell Detective Burstyn - Cliff De Young Detective Pike - Dean Norris Principal - Belinda Balaski Sister - Rebecca Stein Production Ulysses S. Grant High School in Los Angeles, California was used as a filming location for outdoor scenes at the high school where Diane Borchardt teaches. During the production, the names of several persons involved in the case were deliberately changed for their purposes and for the purposes of the film. References ^ Scott, Tony. Seduced Madness: The Diane Borchardt Story. Different. Renewed August 31, 2020. External Links Seduced Madness: Diane Borchardt's Story of IMDb Obtained from

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